

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

receiving, from a second user, second data corresponding to a health statistic of the second user.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

receiving, from the user, second data corresponding to the health statistic of the user at a separate time;

analyzing the second data to generate a second health statistic of the user; and

storing the second health statistic of the user.

22. (Withdrawn) A computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for directing a processor to perform a method for compiling health information, the method comprising:

establishing a database for storing a plurality of health statuses of a plurality of users, wherein the database is centrally-accessible;

receiving, from a user, data corresponding to a health statistic of the user, the data generated by a health monitoring device;

determining a health status of the user from the health statistic;

storing the health status in the database; and

updating a population statistic based on the health status and the plurality of health statuses.

means for storing the health status in the database; and

means for updating a population statistic based on the health status and the plurality of health statuses.

25. (Currently Amended) A method, performed by a computer-controlled apparatus, for submitting acoustical cardiovascular data to a central database, the method comprising:

receiving, from a user, a request to detect a cardiovascular signal of the user;

initializing a cardiovascular monitoring device connected to a computer in response to the request;

measuring the an acoustical cardiovascular signal with the cardiovascular monitoring device while a startup routine performed by the computer is ongoing;

analyzing a waveform of the cardiovascular signal to determine at least one of a shape of the signal, a slope of the signal, and an area under the signal; and

receiving, at the computer after the startup routine, at least a portion of the detected cardiovascular signal of the user; and

transmitting data based on the received cardiovascular signal to a central database for storage in a record corresponding to the user;

associating limits with the data based on the received cardiovascular signal; and

notifying a user's physician, with a message sent from the computer, to contact the
user when the limits are exceeded by the data.

29. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the transmitting step further comprises:

transmitting the data to the central database through one of a modem connection and the Internet.

30. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for submitting acoustical cardiovascular data to a central database, comprising:

means for receiving, from a user, a request to detect a cardiovascular signal of the user;

means for initializing a cardiovascular monitoring device connected to a computer in response to the request;

means for measuring the cardiovascular signal during a startup routine performed by the computer;

means for receiving, at the computer, at least a portion of the detected cardiovascular signal of the user; and

means for transmitting data based on the received cardiovascular signal to a central database for storage in a record corresponding to the user.

31. (Withdrawn) An apparatus, for submitting acoustical cardiovascular data to a central database, comprising:

a processor; and

35. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the message contains information regarding a reason for contacting the user.